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EUROPEAN BRIEF [REDACTED] FOR 28 JANUARY 1991.

[REDACTED] YUGOSLAVIA: FRAGILE COMPROMISE HOLDING FOR NOW [REDACTED]

CROATIA DEMOBILIZED 20,000 RESERVISTS SATURDAY AS REQUIRED BY A DEAL STRUCK EARLIER WITHIN THE FEDERAL COLLECTIVE STATE PRESIDENCY THAT AVERTED A MILITARY CRACKDOWN. THE FEDERAL ARMY ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAD ORDERED ALL UNITS IN CROATIA TO STAND DOWN FROM HIGH ALERT.

[REDACTED] THE ARMY ALSO SUGGESTED THAT IT PLANS TO FILE CHARGES AGAINST CROATIA'S DEFENSE MINISTER AFTER AIRING A TV "DOCUMENTARY" THAT ACCUSED HIM OF PLANNING MASSACRES OF MILITARY DEPENDENTS AND SERBS IN CROATIA. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THESE STEPS PROBABLY HAVE ONLY DELAYED CONFLICT BETWEEN CROATIA AND THE ARMY. CROATIA REMAINS DETERMINED TO DEFEND ITS SOVEREIGNTY AND ALMOST CERTAINLY WOULD TRY TO BLOCK ANY MILITARY MOVES AGAINST SENIOR REPUBLIC OFFICIALS. THE ARMY'S THREATS AGAINST THE DEFENSE MINISTER AND DELAY IN BRINGING UNITS OFF ALERT INDICATE IT OPPOSES AT LEAST THE SPIRIT OF THE PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE. THE LIKELIHOOD OF FUTURE CONFLICT NOW WILL DEPEND HEAVILY ON WHETHER THE NEAR BRUSH WITH CIVIL WAR FORGES A SOLID MAJORITY IN THE PRESIDENCY OPPOSED TO A MILITARY CRACKDOWN. [REDACTED]

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